

chemical structure of opium alkaloids noted that they fall chemically and pharmacologically into two groups—those having a pyridine nucleus, acting on the smooth muscle like morphine, and those having Benzyl nucleus, acting on the smooth muscle like papaverine. He therefore concluded that synthetic compounds with Benzyl nucleus might work physiologically like papaverine and his experiments seemed to show that even such simple derivatives as the Benzyl Esters have this action. There seems to be no doubt that his laboratory experiments were correctly carried out and his conclusion was apparently justified.

The color chemists have established some close connection between the structure of the dye stuffs and their tinctorial properties by substituting one chemical radical for another and have been able to change the shade, or even the color, at will and have thus played upon a group of dye stuffs as an expert pianist does upon his instrument. They have found, however, that the simple mother substances have no tinctorial properties or have them only in a mild degree. It would, therefore, not have been surprising had Macht found that the simple Benzyl derivatives do not act like the complicated alkaloids.

The medical profession generally paid no attention to Macht's work until a pharmaceutical house issued circulars and exploited Benzyl Benzoate in an ethical manner. No claim was made that Benzyl Benzoate was really a new product of this house, although many physicians thought it had been discovered by them. The result of this advertising was the very large use of Benzyl Benzoate. The G. U. men seemed rather disappointed as most of them quit prescribing. It was then used for other affections of the smooth muscle, for paroxysms of the smooth muscle but here again most physicians were disappointed. At present Benzyl Benzoate is used to a very limited extent and is in danger of being entirely forgotten.

The work of Macht undoubtedly shows that Benzyl Benzoate is useful in some cases and it remains for the pharmacologist or the clinician, probably the latter, to work out the details.

Let us hope that pharmacologists will give this matter the attention which it deserves and not allow these substances to fall into disuse because they have not lived up to the hopes of many who have used them perhaps when they were not indicated.

## New Members

Watson, Richard G., Oakland.  
 Kilgore, Lucy Ruth, Oakland.  
 Forshay, A. W., Oakland.  
 Powell, Mary, Oakland.  
 Nelson, Fred H., Los Angeles.  
 Cook, E. D., Pasadena.  
 Jones, O. C., Los Angeles.  
 Renfrew, J. B., Los Angeles.  
 Van Denburg, R. H., Los Angeles.  
 McKee, W. Clifford, Los Angeles.  
 Gummess, K. C., Los Angeles.  
 Sturgeon, Chas. T., Los Angeles.  
 Smart, Elliott P., Los Angeles.  
 Shumann, J. R., Los Angeles.  
 Garstang, D. Buie, Los Angeles.  
 Farr, Margaret E., Los Angeles.  
 Evans, J. G., Los Angeles.  
 Toland, C. G., Los Angeles.  
 Anderson, Jennie H., Eureka.  
 Jenkins, R. B., Los Angeles.  
 Aronchik, Bernard, Los Angeles.  
 Reed, J. Ross, Los Angeles.  
 Waterman, C. O., Los Angeles.  
 Steinberg, James, Los Angeles.  
 Cooke, Harry T., Los Angeles.

Dunlop, John, Los Angeles.  
 Downs, Jorah M., Los Angeles.  
 Irwin, John C., Los Angeles.  
 Bennett, Edward C., Covelo.  
 Lenker, W. D., San Bernardino.  
 King, Willis E., San Francisco.  
 Burlingame, R. W., San Francisco.  
 Crawford, A. S., San Francisco (in China)  
 Angermann, E. H., San Francisco.  
 Barkan, Adolph, San Francisco.  
 Boldemann, Lillian, San Francisco.  
 Bronson, Edith, San Francisco.  
 Burnham, W. P., San Francisco.  
 Cordes, F. C., San Francisco.  
 Gunville, Jos., San Francisco.  
 Huebner, G. A., San Francisco.  
 Nolan, T. J., San Francisco.  
 Owen, Ethel D., San Francisco.  
 Perkins, W. A., San Francisco.  
 Reilly, Wm., San Francisco.  
 Taussig, Laurence, San Francisco.  
 Taylor, F. B., San Francisco.  
 Tomlinson, R. F., San Francisco.  
 Clay, Harry E., San Francisco.  
 Frick, Euclid B., San Francisco.  
 Koefod, Hilmar O., San Francisco.  
 Richter, Ina M., San Francisco.  
 Towne, Edward B., San Francisco.  
 Stover, W. M., San Luis Obispo.  
 Newell, Robert, Santa Barbara.  
 Henderson, H. R., Santa Barbara.  
 Jean, G. W., Santa Barbara.  
 Pritchard, J. L., San Jose.  
 Conroy, T. F., Santa Cruz.

### Transferred.

Stowe, O. P., from Marin County to Alameda County.  
 Scamell, J. W., Sonoma County to Alameda County.  
 Diepenbrock, A. B., from Sacramento County to San Francisco County.

### Resigned.

Dodsworth, Robert M., Long Beach.  
 Slabaugh, Warren H., Los Angeles.

## OBITUARY

There died at Livermore on March 9th Dr. Emile Schmoll, one of the ablest physicians that California has seen. He was born at Basel, Switzerland, in 1873, of Alsatian parents, who emigrated after the War of 1870. After getting his medical training in Basel and Strasburg, he had the good fortune to become an assistant of Naunyn, one of Germany's greatest physicians and a pioneer in the study of metabolism. In this clinic Dr. Schmoll became an excellent physiological chemist. He did some valuable research work on uric acid and became a recognized authority on gout. After several years spent in this way, he studied in France and later in England, where he had an enormous experience in a large London clinic. For a while after coming to America he was at Johns Hopkins. He moved to San Francisco in 1904 and went to work in the Cooper wards at the City Hospital. It was while working there that he was arrested by the late Dudley Tait for practicing without a license. It was characteristic of Schmoll's bigness of heart that when he realized that this arrest was due purely to the excess of Tait's zeal in a good cause, he promptly forgave him and afterward counted him among his best friends.

About 1908, he was very much discouraged over his inability to get a practice and was planning to leave, when things suddenly began to come his way. From that time onwards, patients flocked to him in ever increasing numbers until he had one of the best clienteles in the city. As this sudden rise to fortune has been an inexplicable puzzle to many of his confreres, it might be of

analyze some of the factors which to his success. There may have been a little factor of luck. Out at the City in 1905 was an interesting old Irishman, crippled with the gout. When Schmoll back on his feet, this man in gratitude to see his old employer, one of San Francisco's millionaires, who was also suffering from gout. Soon the millionaire got relief, and was not long before all the sore feet in the



Pacific Union Club were hobbling toward the door of an obscure physician on Sutter Street.

They found a man who, to begin with, had great innate ability and a great capacity for hard work. In his early days in San Francisco he would study until one or two in the morning and yet be able to wake refreshed and strong at seven. He was a voracious reader in three languages, not only in the field of medicine, but also in literature and art. His memory was wonderfully retentive even for details. His great success was due in large part to the fact that he prepared thoroughly before he began private practice. He knew well the basic sciences; he thought about his clinical problems in terms of deranged physiology; and his wide reading kept him ahead of his time. Thus in 1910-13 he worked out in his own laboratory practically all the essential points of the now famous Allen treatment for diabetes. Unfortunately the pressure of work made him delay publication until it was too late. He was keenly interested in focal infections in 1909, long before the average man had heard of them. He understood the dietetic principles underlying the art of overfeeding and of reduction at a time when there was almost nothing written in English on the subject. He was probably the first in San Francisco to study all his gastro-intestinal cases with the X-ray. He was also probably the first to get from Europe modern apparatus for radiology. In 1912 such instruments were not to be had in America. He was also an expert in obtaining simultaneous pulse tracings from the heart and various blood vessels; and he was well known for his ability in treating heart disease. He was also an excellent neurologist. His work was thorough, and he absolutely refused to give an opinion unless he could examine the patient carefully. It is remarkable that in addition to his scientific knowledge of medicine, he showed great skill in the art of treating patients. He was expert not only in the administering of drugs, but in

inspiring the patient with that hope and confidence which so often is essential for recovery. This was all the more remarkable in view of the fact that some of his eccentricities prejudiced many people against him at the start.

Those who looked past these peculiarities saw kindness, honesty and a certain naivete and simplicity which were charming to those who knew him well. These faculties won for him a host of friends among his confreres and patients. It is a pity that his remarkable mind should have become deranged as it did. It is perhaps even more unfortunate that the insidious disease which was eventually to undermine his reason began to change him in the winter of 1912. After that time he lost much of his interest in scientific medicine, his strength began to fail him and he was seldom seen at medical gatherings. Hence it is that those who would estimate correctly his character and ability must think of him as he was before 1913.—W. C. A.

## Deaths

Seaman, E. D. A graduate of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, 1883. Licensed here, 1887. Died in Los Angeles, February 22, 1920. Was a member of the Medical Society State of California.

Schmoll, Emile. A graduate of University of Basle, Switzerland, 1895. Licensed in California, 1904. Died in California, March 10, 1920, age 46.

Hieber, Harvey G. A graduate of Northwestern University Medical School, Illinois, June 18, 1903. Licensed in California, 1918. Died January 17, 1920, in Monrovia, California.

Sawyer, Herbert Carleton. A graduate of University of California, 1881. Licensed, 1882. Died in La Jolla, Calif., March 3, 1920.

Feldman, Abraham. A graduate of College of Physicians and Surgeons (University of Southern California), 1916. Licensed in Calif., 1916. Died in Hammonton, Calif., January 20, 1920, from pneumonia, age 30. Was a member of the Medical Society, State of California.

Waterman, Oscar M. A graduate of Med. Dept., State University of New York, 1897. Licensed in California, 1914. Died in San Francisco, February 27, 1920.

Horn, Henry. A graduate of Cooper Medical College, San Francisco, 1897. Licensed, 1898. Died in San Francisco, March 5, 1917.

Stewart, Dudley W. A graduate of Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, 1861. Licensed in California 1887. Died in Los Angeles about January 1, 1920.

Cherry, Edwin M. A graduate of Cooper Medical College, California, 1899. Licensed in California 1899. Died in San Francisco January 30, 1920.

Lake, E. H. A graduate of St. Louis Physicians and Surgeons, 1895. Licensed in California 1895. Was buried at sea January 28, 1920.

Brodie, Benjamin Pitcher. A graduate of Michigan College of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan, 1884. Licensed in California 1918. Died in San Francisco January 23, 1920.

Ballance, Wm. Pell. A graduate of University of Baltimore, Md., 1873. Licensed in California 1901. Died in Los Angeles January 5, 1920.

Browne, Agnes Mary. Oakland, California. Died in San Francisco January 13, 1920. Was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco, 1918.

Young, Wm. Rutherford. A graduate of State University of Iowa, 1893. Licensed in California July, 1919. Died in Long Beach, California, December 22, 1919.

Davis, Andrew P. Died in Los Angeles, California, December 19, 1919. Was a graduate of the Rush Medical College 1867, also Pulte Medical College 1877. Licensed in California 1885.